

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-30 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 8, 12, 18, and 25 being the independent claims. Claims 1-11 are withdrawn. Claims 12, 18 and 25 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

On page two of the Office Action, claims 12, 15, 16, 18-20, 25-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0120791 to Weber *et al.* ("Weber"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request that it be withdrawn.

Technical differences exist between Weber and claim 12. Weber is directed to a dual mode STMS (single-thread, multi-speed) and MTSS (multi-thread, single-speed) interconnect protocol controller that includes a data presenter to present data to a serializer/deserializer according to a desired data protocol such as Ethernet or Fibre Channel. (Weber, paragraphs 0004 and 0024.) However, nowhere does Weber teach or suggest "at least one of said programmable pads is configured to operate with a plurality of electrical specifications such that an operating voltage of said at least one

programmable pads can be changed according to a specified electrical specification," as recited in claim 12. Accordingly, claim 12 is patentable over Weber.

Claims 18 and 25 are also patentable over Weber because they recite similar features as distinguished above with respect to claim 12. Specifically, Weber does not teach "accessing an electrical specification that includes instructions to change an operating voltage of a programmable pad disposed on the trasceiver," as recited in claim 18 and "protocol means for accessing . . . an electrical specification that includes instructions to change the operating voltage of a programmable pad disposed on the trasceiver," as recited in claim 25.

Claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 12. Claims 19 and 20 depend from claim 18. Claims 26 and 27 depend from claim 25. These dependent claims are thus patentable over Weber for at least the reasons presented above and further view of their own features.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 17, 21, and 28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weber in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0172332 to Rearick ("Rearick"). Claims 13, 14, 22-24, 29, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weber in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0015664 to Taniguchi *et al.* ("Taniguchi"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections and request that they be withdrawn.

Claims 13, 14, 17, 21-24, and 28-30 depend from independent claim 12, 18, or 25. The disclosures of Rearick and Taniguchi add nothing to the disclosure of Weber to overcome the deficiencies of the latter with respect to claims 12, 18, and 25. Claims 13,

14, 17, 21-24, and 28-30 are therefore patentable over the Examiner's several combinations of references for at least the reasons presented above. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 13, 14, 17, 21-24, and 28-30.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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